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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 56130.000042
Client Reference No. 12876ROUS01U

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Donald Brent MARSHALL et al.)
*RECEIVED
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U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
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Serial No.: 09/750,305)

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: December 29, 2000)

Group Art Unit: Unknown

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR)
MANAGING DEPENDENCIES IN A)
COMPONENT-BASED SYSTEM)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, line 9, delete "services" and insert --Service
Functionality--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claims 41, 43 and 47 as follows:

41. **(Amended)** A method of managing dependencies in a component-based system comprising: